

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 20005 062225Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 IO-13 (ISO) W
-----076855 070746Z /13

R 061608Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9030
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 20005

FROM VATICAN OFFICE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, XF, VT
SUBJECT: POPE RENEWS SUPPORT FOR PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST

REF: (A) ROME 19054 (NOTAL), (B) ROME 18984

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. DURING PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS CEREMONY
DECEMBER 3, THE NEW AMBASSADOR OF IRAQ TO HOLY SEE,
SALAH OMAR AL-ALI, POPE TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW
HIS DECLARATION FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.
(REFTEL B).

2. ACCORDING TO FRONT PAGE ARTICLE IN VATICAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 20005 062225Z

ORGAN L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO, DECEMBER 4, THE
POPE TOLD AMBASSADOR AL-ALI THE FOLLOWING:
BEGIN QUOTE: WE HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE
VALUED CONTRIBUTION THAT YOUR COUNTRY CAN MAKE
TO THAT CAUSE (OF PEACE) ESPECIALLY IN THE
MIDDLE EAST. FOR TOO LONG HAS THAT PART OF
THE WORLD BEEN A CENTER OF MISTRUST, HATRED AND

CONFLICT. WE HOPE THAT EVERYTHING WILL NOW BE
DONE TO CLEAR AWAY INJUSTICES AND ANIMOSITIES AND
TO BUILD THE FOUNDATION OF UNDERSTANDING AND
GENEROSITY ON WHICH CAN REST A LASTING PEACE.
WE PRAY THAT THE PEOPLES OF THE MIDDLE EAST,
WHO ACKNOWLEDGE THE GREATNESS AND LOVE OF THE ONE
GOD, MAY SOON LIVE FRATERNALLY TOGETHER, WITH
WHOLEHEARTED RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER'S HUMAN
AND RELIGIOUS RIGHTS, ESPECIALLY IN THE HOLY CITY
OF JERUSALEM. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH WILL NOT FAIL TO
DO WHATEVER IT CAN TO FURTHER THIS HOPE. END QUOTE

3. THE POPE MADE THIS STATEMENT IN REPLY TO
AMBASSADOR AL-ALI'S STRONGLY WORDED CALL FOR
VATICAN ACTION ON BEHALF ON THE PEOPLE OF PALESTINE
AND HIS SPECIFIC "INVITATION" FOR THE OPOE'S
"INTERVENTION FOR SAVING THE HOLY CITY OF JERUSLAEM,
WHICH WAS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING TRANSFORMED."
END UNCALSSIFIED.

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

4. COMMENT: VATICAN OFFICIAL TOLD US THAT
POP PAUL, DURING PRIVATE AUDIENCE WITH AMBASSADOR
AL-ALI, IN EFFORT TO CONVEY VATICAN SUPPORT FOR
EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT'S TRIP TO JERUSALEM,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 20005 062225Z

EXPRESSED HOPE THAT "RECENT INITIATIVE" WOULD
PRODUCE FORWARD MOVEMENT TOWARD GENERAL MIDDLE
EAST PEACE. HE ALSO SAID THAT POPE WOULD
TKAE SIMILAR LINE WHEN NEW SYRIAN AMBASSADOR
TO HOLY SEE, ALAH EL-FATAL, PRESENTS HIS CREDENTIALS
ON DECEMBER 13. END CONFIDENTIAL.
GARDNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POPE, PEACE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, RELIGIOUS LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME20005
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770453-1058
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771288/aaaacwom.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0c79a70a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ROME 19054, 77 ROME 18984
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 343426
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POPE RENEWS SUPPORT FOR PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST
TAGS: MPOL, XF, VT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0c79a70a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009